

The Chain of Light

Tazkira Masha'ikh-e-Qaadiriyah Razviyah



6th Noor

Hazrat Sayyiduna Imam

Jaafar Saadiq 

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رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

His Position in the Silsila: Hazrat Sayyiduna Imam Ja'far Saadiq عليه السلام is the sixth Imam and Shaykh of the Silsila Aaliyah Qaadiriyyah Barakaatiyyah Razviyyah Nooriyyah. Much has been said in his praise by many great scholars.

Birth: He was born on a Monday, the 7th of Rabi ul Awwal in either 80 or 83 Hijri in Madinah Munaw'wara. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 217]

His Name: His name was Ja'far bin Muhammad, and he was also known as Abu Abdullah and Abu Isma'eel. His titles were Saadiq, Faadil and Taahir.

His Mother: His mother's name was Umme Fardah who was the daughter of Hazrat Qasim عليه السلام, the grandson of Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique عليه السلام and Hazrat Qasim's عليه السلام mother, A'asma عليها السلام is the daughter of Hazrat Abdur Rahmaan, the son of Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique عليه السلام.

His Features: He was very handsome and had a radiant appearance. He had the perfect height, and was tan in complexion. He was the epitome of the exemplary qualities his forefathers. Haafiz Abu Nu'aim Isfahani narrates in Khalifatul Abraar on the authority of Umar bin Midqaam, *"When I used to look at Hazrat Imam Ja'far Saadiq عليه السلام then I used to immediately feel that he was from amongst the descendants of the Prophets"*

Excellence: He was without doubt the true successor to the Muslim empire and one of the greatest Imams of his era. Imam Ja'far Saadiq عليه السلام was a great Aabid and Sufi. Many secrets of Tasawwuf were explained by him. It is in Tabqaatul Abraar, that he received the authority of Hadith from his blessed father, from Imam Zuhri and Naaf'i and ibn Munkadir etc. and Sufyaan Sawri, Ibn Ainiyyah, Shu'ba, Yahya Al Qataan, Imam Maalik and his son Imam Moosa Kaazim (ridwaanullahi ta aala alaihim ajmaeen) attained this authority of Hadith from him. Allama Ibn Hajr

Makki رحمہ اللہ writes in Sawaa'iq Muharaqa. *“The exalted Imams such as Yahya Bin Sa'eed, Ibn Jareeh, Imam Maalik ibn Anas, Imam Sufyaan Sawri, Sufyan bin Ainiyyah, Imam Abu Hanifa and Abu Ayub Sajistani (ridwaanullahi ta aala alaihim ajmaeen) took Hadith from him.”* [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

His Character: He was a very exalted and pious personality. His inner and outer appearance exuded brightness and radiance. He addressed the poor and the downtrodden with great love. Once he called all his servants and said, *“Let us give our hands in the hands of one another and promise that whichever one of us first receives salvation on the day of Qiyaamah, he will intercede for the rest of us.”* On hearing this, they said, *“O Ibn Rasool رحمہ اللہ! For what reason do you need our intercession, when your beloved forefather Rasoolullah رحمہ اللہ will intercede for the entire creation?”* He then said, *“I am ashamed to take my deeds and stand before my forefather, the Holy Prophet رحمہ اللہ.”*

Once Hazrat Dawood Taa'ee رحمہ اللہ came to Hazrat Ja'far Saadiq رحمہ اللہ and said, *“Beloved descendant of the Prophet رحمہ اللہ please give some advice, as my heart has become dark.”* Hazrat Ja'far رحمہ اللہ said, *“O Abu Sulaiman! You are great Zaahid of your era. What need do you have for my advice?”* Hazrat Dawood Taa'ee رحمہ اللہ said, *“O descendant of the Prophet رحمہ اللہ, you have been blessed with excellence amongst people and to advise everyone is compulsory upon you.”* He then said, *“O Abu Sulaiman! I fear that on the day of Qiyaamah, my forefather Muhammadur Rasoolullah رحمہ اللہ will hold me by my collar and ask, ‘Why were you slow in fulfilling your right to submission?’ What will I say then? Thus, this deed (of advice) does not depend on ones stature or family lineage, but it deals with good deeds which are done in the Court of Allah.”* Hazrat Dawood رحمہ اللہ heard this and began to weep. He then said, *“O Allah! When such a great personality, who is the descendant of a Prophet رحمہ اللہ, and whose reality is filled with light and wisdom, and whose great grandmother is Bibi Faatima, is so afraid of his future and condition, then what right does Dawood Taa'ee have to be proud of his deeds?”* [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

His Ibaadat: He was well known for his Ibaadat, and his striving in the Court of Allah. Hazrat Imam Malik رحمہ اللہ says, “I spent a very long time serving him, and I always found him in one of three Ibaadats. Either he was in Namaaz, or engrossed in recitation of the Quran, or he would be fasting.” He never narrated any Hadith Shareef without Wudu. [Tazkiratul Awliyah]

His Dua: He was without doubt a faithful servant of Allah, and he always attained everything that he asked for from the Court of Allah. Abul Qasim Tabri narrates from Wahab, that he heard Laith bin Sa’ad رحمہ اللہ saying, “I was on my way to Hajj by foot in 113 Hijri and I reached Makkah Muazammah. I reached Jabl Abu Qais close to the time of Asr Salaah. There, I saw a pious man sitting (in seclusion), making Dua. He was saying ‘Ya Rabbi Ya Rabbi’ so many times, that breathing became difficult. Then in the same way, he said ‘Ya Hayy Ya Hayy’ then ‘Ya Rab’bahu Ya Rab’bahu, then in the same say, he said ‘Ya Allah Ya Allah’ in one breath continuously. He then said ‘Ya Rahmaanu Ya Rahmaanu, Ya Raheemu Ya Raheemu’ and then he went on to say ‘Ya Arhamar Raahimeen’. He then said, “O Allah I desire to eat grapes. Please bless me with some, and my clothes have become old and tattered Please give me new ones.”

Hazrat Laith says, “By Allah, he was still completing his Dua, when I saw a basket of grapes kept before him, whereas it was not event the grape season and I did not see any grapes near him before his Dua. I also saw that there were two pieces of cloth kept near the grapes. I have never seen such beautiful material before. He then sat down to eat the grapes. I went up to him and said, Huzoor! May I also have a part in this? and he asked how this was so, so I said, I was saying Aameen as you made the Dua. He said, ‘Well then, step forward and join me.’ I also began to partake in the grapes. They were so tasty, that never have I eaten such delicious grapes. I ate until I was satisfied, but the basket still remained as it was before, full of grapes. He then offered on piece of cloth to me, and I said that I had no need for it, so he tied one around his waist, and he draped the other over his shoulder. He then descended from the mountain and I followed him. As he drew

close to Saffa and Marwah, a beggar called out to him and said, ‘O Descendant of the Prophet ﷺ Give these clothes to me and Allah will dress you in the clothes of Jannat.” He immediately gave the two pieces of cloth to the beggar. (On seeing this), I enquired about the identity of this pious man from the beggar, who informed me that he was Hazrat Ja’far Saadiq ﷺ. I then looked for him so that I may listen to some words of wisdom from him and attain his blessings, but he had disappeared from my sight.” [Tazkiratul Awliyah pg.12]

Once, some people saw that Hazrat Ja’far ﷺ was wearing a very expensive robe. One of them walked up to him and said, “Huzoor! It is not good for the Ahle Bait to wear such expensive clothing.” He caught hold of the man’s hand and thrust it into his sleeves. The man was amazed when he found that a Hazrat was wearing clothes made from sacks under his robe. Hazrat Ja’far ﷺ then said, “The one inside is for my Creator and the one on top is for the creation.”

A man once lost his purse which contained one thousand dinaars. Imam Ja’far ﷺ was walking close to him, so he held the hand of the Imam and accused him of stealing his money. Hazrat Imam Ja’far ﷺ asked how much he had in his money bag, and the man said that he had one thousand dinaars. Hazrat took him home and gave him one thousand dinaars from his wealth. The next day, the man found his money bag, and came rushing to Hazrat Imam Ja’far Saadiq ﷺ to return the money he had taken from him. Hazrat Imam Ja’far ﷺ said, “We do not take back what we have already given.” The man then asked some people who this person was, and he was told that it was Hazrat Imam Ja’far Saadiq ﷺ. When he heard this, he became very sad and regretted his behaviour.

Debate with an Atheist: Hazrat Ja’far ﷺ spent a lot of his time spreading the word of Allah and His Rasool ﷺ. He always spoke against those who did not believe in Allah. An atheist from Egypt came to Hazrat Ja’far

Saadiq عليه السلام whilst he was in Makkah. Hazrat Ja'far Saadiq عليه السلام asked his name and he said that his name was Abdul Malik and he was also known as Abdullah. On hearing this Hazrat said, *"Malik, whose servant you are, is he from the Kingdom of the Skies or the Kingdom of the earth, the Lord that is the Lord of your son, is he the Lord of the skies or the Lord of the Earths?"* The atheist could not answer this question. Hazrat then said, *"Did you ever journey under the earth? Do you know what is beyond it?"* He replied in the negative and said, *"I think there is nothing beyond it."* Hazrat then said to him, *"Thinking is not sufficient! However, have you ever flown into the skies and journeyed beyond the skies?"* Again he replied in the negative. Hazrat said, *"Did you ever travel the entire East and West and did you realise anything about the future from this?"* Again he answered in the negative. Hazrat said, *"I am amazed, that you are not aware of the earth and what is beneath it, and the sky and what is beyond it, and in this state of ignorance, you still have the arrogance to reject the existence of Allah. O Ignorant man! There is no argument for one who is naive about that which is a reality. The sun, the moon, the night and day, are all in a specific pattern. Verily they are within some divine control. If they were free, then they would move as they willed and would sometimes go to an appointed spot and not return. Why is it that the night does not take the place of day and the day does not take the place of night? Do you not ponder upon the reality of the skies and the earth? Why does the sky not come to the earth and why is it that the earth is not flattened by the sky? There is definitely ONE, who has all this in His Divine Control. It is He (Allah) who is All Powerful. It is He, who is our and their Lord."* When the atheist heard this, he immediately accepted Islam and had faith in the existence of Allah.

Hazrat Bayazeed Bustaami عليه السلام: Hazrat Ba Yazeed Bustaami عليه السلام used to distribute water in the Darbaar of Hazrat Imam Ja'far عليه السلام. Hazrat placed his saintly sight on Hazrat Bayazeed Bustaami عليه السلام once, and he became one of the greatest mystics of his time. He then served in the Court of Hazrat Ja'far عليه السلام and became one of the greatest Awliyah.

Hazrat Imam Azam Abu Hanifa رحمہ اللہ: Hazrat Imam Azam Abu Hanifa رحمہ اللہ attained great blessings from Hazrat Imam Ja'far Saadiq رحمہ اللہ. It is narrated that once he asked Imam Abu Hanifa رحمہ اللہ concerning who is an intelligent person. Hazrat Imam Abu Hanifa رحمہ اللہ said, *"He who can differentiate between good and evil is an intelligent man."* Hazrat Imam Ja'far رحمہ اللہ said, *"Even animals have the ability to differentiate. It can differentiate between those who love them, beat them or instil fear in them?"* Imam Abu Hanifa رحمہ اللہ then said, *"O Hazrat! Would you please explain who is truly intelligent?"* Hazrat Imam Ja'far رحمہ اللہ said, *"An intelligent person, is one who can differentiate between two good things and two evils, so that he may choose the better of two good things and that he may be able to repel the worse of two evils."*

Shaykh-E-Tariqat: He was the Mureed and Khalifa of Hazrat Sayyiduna Imam Baaqir رحمہ اللہ and attained great blessings from his beloved father.

Gems Of Wisdom:

* He would often make the following dua : *'O Allah bless me with respect which is in your obedience and do not disgrace me due to my shortcomings. O Allah let me assist him through your grace and Mercy, whose sustenance you have decreased, for you have blessed me in abundance.'*

* There is not provision greater than piety. There is nothing better than silence, and there is no enemy more dangerous than ones ignorance and there is no disease worse than lies

* He who has attained the closeness to Allah divorces himself from everything in the world

* There is no Ibaadat without repentance, since Allah has caused repentance to be above Ibaadat

* He who sits in the companionship of all types of people will not be safe

* One who walks on the wrong path will always arouse suspicion

* One who cannot keep his tongue in control will always be disgraced

* Stay away from five kinds of people:

a. A liar, as he will also betray you

b. A witless person, as he will try to benefit you, but will always cause you harm,

c. A miser, for he will cause you intense loss in order to gain even the slightest benefit,

d. A coward who will leave you in distress during a difficult situation.

e. A man who is involved in illicit dealings, for he will sell you for one morsel and will still be hopeful of even less than that. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 224]

Books And Treaties : Hazrat has also written books on numerous topics, as mentioned by scholars like Imam Kamaaludeen etc.

Karaamats : Hazrat Imam Jaafar Saadiq عليه السلام is an example for Muslims in every way. His greatest Karaamat was his firmness on the Shariat. His every step was in accordance with the Sunnat of the Prophet ﷺ. A few of his Karaamats are being quoted below.

A Mansion In Jannat : Once, a man came to Hazrat Jaafar عليه السلام before journeying for Hajj. He gave Hazrat 10 000 dirhams, and asked him to purchase a mansion for him before he returned. Instead of purchasing a mansion, Imam Jaafar عليه السلام distributed the entire 10 000 dirhams in the way of Allah. After the man returned from Hajj, he went to meet Hazrat Imam

Jaafar Saadiq عليه السلام. Hazrat Jaafar عليه السلام told him that he had purchased his mansion and then handed the title deed over to him. The title deed read as follows : “ *One wall of the house is adjoined to the house of the Prophet ﷺ, the other wall is adjoined to the house of Hazrat Ali عليه السلام, the third wall is adjoined to the house of Imam Hassan عليه السلام and the fourth wall is adjoined to the house of Imam Hussain عليه السلام.*” The man took this title deed, and asked his family members to place it in his grave when he passed away. After his demise, his family members found the title deed on the top of his grave and on the rear of the title deed the following words were written, “ *Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام was honest and loyal in what he said.*” [Masaalikus saalikeen vol.1 pg.220]

Amazing Incident : Once, he was on his way to Hajj, when he stopped to rest under a date tree which was completely dried out. At the time of Chasht, he asked the tree to present him with some dates. Immediately, the tree became green and lush and full of dates. Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام then ate from it. A villager was passing by and saw this. He saw this great karaamat and said that it was magic. Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام said, “ *This is not magic. Almighty Allah has blessed me with such a quality, that he accepts all my duas. If I make dua, even you can be transformed into a dog.*” Hazrat had not yet completed what he was saying, when the villager began to resemble a dog. He quickly repented and asked Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام to forgive him. Hazrat made dua for him, and he was transformed to his normal self. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 223]

Khalifa Mansoor : Khalifa Mansoor once sent one of his ministers to summon Imam Jaafar عليه السلام to his Court. He informed his servants that when Imam Jaafar arrived, they should wait for him (Mansoor) to remove his crown. The moment he did this, they should martyr Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام. When the minister heard this, he was not pleased and thus tried to explain to Mansoor, how wrong it was to kill a pious person, who is also a

Sayyid. The Khalifa did not take heed and had Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام summoned. When Hazrat Imam Jaafar عليه السلام arrived, the servants waited for their cue, so that they may martyr Imam Jaafar عليه السلام.

Instead, Mansoor woke up from his throne and rushed towards the Imam. He brought him towards his throne and allowed him to sit on it with great respect, whilst he sat on the ground in front of the great Imam. The servants and ministers were surprised to see this sudden change in plan. Mansoor then asked the Imam if he had any requests. Imam Jaafar عليه السلام said, “ *In future you should not summon me to your court, as I wish to remain engrossed in Ibaadat.*”

When he heard these words, his body began to tremble and he allowed the Imam to leave with respect. When the Imam left, the minister asked about the sudden change in plan and Mansoor said, “ *When Imam Jaafar عليه السلام entered my court, I saw a huge python with him. The python had its one lip over my throne and one under my throne, and it spoke to me and said that if I tried to ever harm the Imam, then he would consume me with my throne, and that is why I behaved in the manner which I did.*” [Tazkiratul Awliyah]

His Children : He was blessed with six sons and one daughter. Their names are :

1. Hazrat Ismaeel
2. Hazrat Muhammad
3. Hazrat Ali
4. Hazrat Abdullah
5. Hazrat Ishaq
6. Hazrat Moosa Kaazim
7. Bibi Umme Fardah (ridwaanullahi ta aala alaihim ajmaeen)

His Khulafa : If one studies the books of history, then one will learn about his Khulafa, and how exalted each one of them was and how they had attained his blessings. Some of them are:

1. Hazrat Imam Moosa Kaazim عليه السلام
2. Hazrat Imam Azam Abu Hanifa عليه السلام
3. Hazrat Sultaan Bayazeed Bustaami عليه السلام

Wisaal : He passed away during the rule of the second Abbasi Khalifa Abu Jaafar Mansoor bin Abul Abbas As Safah on a Friday, the 15th of Rajab or 24 Shawwal 148 Hijri at the age of 68 in Madinatul Munawwarah. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 217]

Mazaar Shareef : His Mazaar Shareef is in Jannatul Baqi in Madinatul Munawwarah.